

## **New Melones Lake Incentives for the Volunteer Program**

Whether you volunteer one day a week or one day a month, your service to New Melones Lake and the visiting public can be enjoyable and rewarding. A variety of incentives are available for the volunteers of New Melones Lake. This document describes the documentation required to be a volunteer, defines an “Active Volunteer,” and outlines the available incentives.

### **Volunteer Agreements**

All volunteers must have an active Volunteer Agreement Form outlining their specific duties before any work may be performed or volunteer hours recorded. Additional agreements may be created for special events, additional duties or changes in duties. All Volunteer Agreements must be approved by the Volunteer Coordinator, Chief Park Ranger, or Resource Manager.

### **Volunteer Hours**

All individual volunteer hours must be documented with the New Melones Volunteer Coordinator. Volunteer hours are per individual and may not be combined with another volunteer’s hours to qualify for incentives. Volunteer hours will begin to accumulate toward annual incentives on October 1 of each year.

### **Ways to Document Hours**

- Self-record on your Volunteer Log in the Visitor Center (arrange with the Volunteer Coordinator).
- Sign in on the daily log in the Visitor Center Handbook when staffing the Visitor Center.
- Call the Volunteer Coordinator (leaving a message if needed) indicating the names, date(s), amount of time and services to be provided prior to the work being performed. In special circumstances, report no later than two weeks after the work is performed.
- Sign the roster for special event committee meetings and document hours & duties served off-site for the event coordination (fund raising, purchasing, etc.) on the roster or on an Individual Log Sheet.

### **Definition of an Active Volunteer**

An individual person who volunteers an average of 6 hours per month for a minimum of 9 months in a 12 month period, volunteers 50 hours in a 12 month period, or serves as a committee member for a large special event such as C.A.S.T. or National Public Lands Day, attending a minimum of 80% of the meetings and the event.

### **Annual Incentives for Active Volunteers:**

- An invitation to the annual Volunteer Recognition Event
- Much appreciation by the staff of New Melones Lake

### **Pass Incentives**

#### **Volunteer Hours Required for Pass Incentives:**

- 50 hours for a New Melones Day Use Pass OR
- 75 hours for a New Melones Boat Launch Pass
- 500 hours for an Interagency Volunteer Pass

### **New Melones Pass Benefit Requirements:**

- Volunteer hours began accumulating toward the issuance of a New Melones pass on November 1, 2007, when the Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) legislation was passed for New Melones Lake.
- Individuals who already possess an Interagency Access, Senior, or Volunteer Pass do not need a New Melones Day Use Pass.
- There is no specific time frame in which the volunteer hours must be accrued. Once the hour requirement is reached and a pass is issued, the volunteer's hours are reset to zero and the count begins again.
- Only one New Melones pass may be issued in a 12-month period.
- The Volunteer must receive the pass in person and sign the pass immediately upon issuance.
- All guidelines set forth by the New Melones Pass program are applicable.
- New Melones Passes are non-transferrable.

### **Interagency Volunteer Pass Guidelines:**

The guidelines for the interagency passes are set by the America the Beautiful Interagency Pass Program. For more information visit: <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html>

- 500 documented volunteer hours required.
- Volunteers may count any documented hours accrued for volunteering with a federal agency beginning January 1, 2007.
- Individuals who already possess an Interagency Access or Senior Pass do not need an Interagency Volunteer Pass.
- There is no specific time frame in which the volunteer hours must be accrued. Once the 500 hour requirement is reached and a pass is issued, the volunteer's hours are reset to zero and the count begins again.
- Receiving a New Melones Pass does not affect the hours accrued toward an Interagency Volunteer Pass.
- Only one Interagency Volunteer Pass may be issued per 12-month period.
- If a volunteer gives more than 500 hours in any 12 month period, the pass-credit hours do not roll over into the next 12 month period.
- The Volunteer must receive the pass in person and sign the pass immediately upon issuance.
- Interagency Volunteer Passes are non-transferrable.

### **Stipend Volunteer Incentives**

Stipend volunteers are required to live on-site and may receive a small stipend and a full hook-up camping space for their volunteer service. Stipend volunteers are also eligible to receive all other volunteer incentives upon fulfilling the requirements.

For more information about New Melones Lake visit our website at <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/ccao/newmelones/index.html>. For more information on volunteer opportunities at New Melones Lake please contact Park Ranger Tracy Neal, Volunteer Coordinator, at (209) 536-9094 x215 or email [tneal@usbr.gov](mailto:tneal@usbr.gov).

